

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-10 L-03 NSF-01

NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SS-15 SP-02

DOE-15 INT-05 /123 W

-----031608 121311Z /47

R 121240Z JUN 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0715

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, CSCE, ECE

SUBJECT: ECE SENIOR ADVISERS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

(SAEP); SPECIAL SESSION, JUNE 7-9

1. SUMMARY: AS EXPECTED CONTROVERSY ABOUT ADDITIONAL POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR HIGH-LEVEL MEETING (HLM) -- OVER AND ABOVE THE TWO SINGLED OUT AT THE APRIL PLENARY (LONG RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION AND LOW AND NON-WASTE TECHNOLOGY) -- DOMINATED FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF SAEP. EC-9, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALONG WITH U.S. AND NORDICS, MAINTAINED THAT ONLY TWO AGREED-UPON TOPICS SHOULD BE ON HLM AGENDA, BUT RECOGNIZING THAT RESOLUTION 1 (XXXIII) CALLED FOR CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL TOPICS, AND AT STRONG INSISTENCE OF GREEKS, YUGOSLAVS AND EASTERN BLOC, SAEP COMPROMISED BY SETTING UP ADDITIONAL TOPICS, AND SET ASIDE TWO DAYS AT REGULAR FEBRUARY SAEP MEETING FOR DISCUSSION. EAST CONTINUES TO

PUSH FLORA AND FAUNA, HUNGARIANS, YUGOSLAVS AND GREEKS TRANSBOUNDARY WATER POLLUTION, BUT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT EITHER WILL RECEIVE MAJOR CONSIDERATION AT ANY HLM. TWO WORKING GROUPS WERE ESTABLISHED, FOR TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION (TBAP) AND LOW AND NON-WASTE TECHNOLOGY; FIRST MEETING OF THESE WORKING GROUPS WILL BE JULY 3-5 AND 5-7 RESPECTIVELY. SPECIAL SESSIONS OF SAEP SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 11-13 AND, TENTATIVELY DECEMBER 13-15. USDEL PLEASED WITH OUTCOME AND CONVINCED THAT US/EC/NORDIC COOPERATION UTILIZED TO MAXIMUM ADVANTAGE. END SUMMARY.

2. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STANOVNIK WELCOMED SAEP WITH APPEAL FOR COOPERATION AND ATTENDED ALMOST ENTIRE 3-DAY SESSION. HE NOTED THAT MUCH OF THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING POSSIBLE HLM IS PAST, AND THAT APRIL AGREEMENT ON ECE RESOLUTION 1 (XXXIII) WAS UNANIMOUS. HE ASKED SAEP TO CONCENTRATE ON AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND TO BE PRACTICAL AND FLEXIBLE. HE NOTED THAT ECE SECRETARIAT HAS MADE PREPARATORY WORK FOR ENVIRONMENT MEETING NUMBER ONE PRIORITY, AND HAS SET ASIDE SIZEABLE SHARE OF RESOURCES FOR WORK.

3. OFFICERS REMAINED AS AT NORMAL SAEP MEETING: NORWAY (LYKKE) AS CHAIRMAN, HUNGARY (SZENES) VICE-CHAIRMAN. RAPPORTEURS ELECTED FROM GDR (ARNOLD) AND US (SPIELMAN). LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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4. FOLLOWING DECISIONS TO SELECT OFFICERS FOR 2 WORKING GROUPS, AGREEMENT REACHED THAT SPECIAL WORKING GROUP ON LONG RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION (TBAP) WILL BE CHAIRED BY UK, WITH POLISH VICE-CHAIRMAN. WESTERN RAP- PORTEUR SLOT WILL BE FILLED BY NORWAY AND EASTERN BY USSR. THERE WAS LITTLE CONTROVERSY OVER MAKEUP AND SCOPE OF TBAP WORKING GROUP. SAEP AGREED THAT WORK OF EXISTING SAEP GROUPS SHOULD NOT BE DILUTED BY USING THEM TO PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE HLM. USE OF LESLIE REED (UK) AS CHAIR OF BOTH TBAP WORKING GROUP AND ECE WORKING PARTY ON AIR POLLUTION PROBLEMS WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY COORDINATION.

5. LOW AND NON-WASTE TECHNOLOGY. SECRETARIAT HAD PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED "FOCAL POINTS" MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT FOR JUNE 21-23, AND SUGGESTED THAT NEW WORKING GROUP COULD INSTEAD USE THOSE DATES, POSTPONING "FOCAL POINTS" WORK. AFTER OBJECTIONS FROM SEVERAL DELEGATIONS ABOUT SHORT TIME FRAME, JULY 5-7 SELECTED FOR LW/NWT WORKING GROUP MEETING. GROUP WILL BE CHAIRED BY SOVIETS WITH FRENCH VICE-CHAIR. SWEDEN AND GDR WILL BE RAP- PORTEURS. DELIBERATIONS OF BOTH WORKING GROUPS WILL BE

REVIEWED AND GUIDED BY SPECIAL SAEP SESSION SCHEDULED FOR
OCTOBER 11-13.

6. OTHER POSSIBLE TOPICS. LYKKE MANAGED TO SPREAD DIS-
CUSSION OF THIS MOST CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OVER THREE-DAY
PERIOD, THUS ENABLING OTHER DECISIONS TO BE REACHED AND
COMPROMISE WORKED OUT GRADUALLY. US, CANADA, NORDICS
AND EC-9 HELD FIRM IN MINIMIZING CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE
ADDITIONAL TOPICS. THERE WAS SOME SUPPORT FOR FLORA AND
FAUNA, PRIMARILY BY EASTERN BLOC, AND IT BECAME
OBVIOUS THAT SOME DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WILL BE
NECESSARY IN ORDER TO PUT IT TO REST AND KEEP IT FROM

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BECOMING MAJOR AGENDA ITEM AT ANY HLM. GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA
AND HUNGARY HAVE SPECIAL INTEREST IN TRANSBOUNDARY WATER
POLLUTION, WITH SUPPORT FROM PORTUGAL, TURKEY AND TO
LESSER EXTENT SOVIET UNION AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEANS.
THIS TOPIC MUST ALSO BE EXPLORED, EVEN THOUGH ALL MEMBERS

KNOW THAT THIS SUBJECT WILL BE COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE TO EC-9 AND SWITZERLAND AS FINAL, FULL-BLOWN TOPIC. COM-PROMISE CALLS FOR SECRETARIAT PAPER ON ALL POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL TOPICS, TO BE CONSIDERED AT REGULAR FEBRUARY SAEP MEETING. EXPERTS WILL MEET SEPTEMBER 20-22 TO ASSIST SECRETARIAT. WHILE THIS IS NOT A "WORKING GROUP" AS FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE TWO MAJOR TOPICS, THERE WILL BE A BUREAU CONSISTING OF CHAIRMAN (CZECHOSLOVAKIA), VICE-CHAIRMAN (YUGOSLAVIA) AND TWO RAPPOREURS. AT REQUEST OF WESTERN CAUCUS, US WILL ACT AS WESTERN RAPPOREUR. HUNGARY WILL BE EASTERN RAPPOREUR. PART OF THE TIME AT FEBRUARY REGULAR SAEP MEETING WILL BE SET ASIDE TO CONSIDER HLM PREPARATORY WORK; INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL TOPICS.

7. GIVEN CONSENSUS NATURE OF ECE AND STRONG PRESSURE FOR AT A MINIMUM FULL SAEP CONSIDERATION OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATER POLLUTION AS POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL TOPIC FOR HLM, USDEL CONSIDERS OUTCOME OF FIRST SPECIAL SESSION SATISFACTORY. WE HAD NO MAJOR DISAGREEMENTS WITH EC-9 OR NORDICS, AND THIS COMMON POSITION TO GREAT EXTENT LIMITED POSSIBILITIES FOR OVERLOADING HLM AGENDA AND THUS DILUTING LIKELIHOOD OF CONCRETE RESULTS. AT SAME TIME, AMICABLE RELATIONS WITH USSR ESTABLISHED AT APRIL COMMISSION MEETING, MAINTAINED THROUGH THIS SAEP SPECIAL SESSION. VANDEN HEUVEL

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